Abstract of the Disclosure

By comprising a question sentence input unit for
receiving a question sentence for retrieval, a retrieval
5   execution unit for retrieving data from a database
storing data to be retrieved and extracting data similar
to the question sentence inputted by the question
sentence input unit, a word contribution degree
calculation unit for calculating the contribution
10   degree of a word contributing to the extraction by the
retrieval execution unit and a word contribution degree
output unit for the contribution degree calculated by
the word contribution degree calculation unit together
with the corresponding word, the word to which
15   importance is attached can be reported to a user.